(c) Period of engagement

The maximum period of engagement should not exceed two years in case of outside experts. However, in case of retiring/ retired Government servants, the period of engagement as Consultants should not exceed six months.

(d) Age Limit

No retired Government servant should be engaged as a Consultant beyond the age of 62 years. No relaxation of age limit shall henceforth be allowed by the Department of Personnel & Training.

(e) Fee

In the case of non-officials (outside experts), the fee will henceforth be subject to a ceiling of Rs, 26,000 p.m. (with no DA, HRA, CCA or any other relief) if the engagement as Consultant is on a whole-time basis and of Rs. 13,000 p.m. (with no DA, HRA, CCA or any other relief) if the engagement is on a part-time basis. In the case of retiring/ retired Government servants engaged as full-time consultants, the fee will be fixed subject to a ceiling of Rs. 13,000 p.m.. They will also draw their pension and relief thereon in addition. If the retiring/retired Government servant is engaged as a part-time consultant the fee will be subject to a ceiling of Rs. 6500/- p.m. (without any adjustment of the pension drawn by him.).

(f) TA/DA

TA/DA may be allowed to Consultants as per normal rules applicable to any serving officer of an equivalent rank in the Ministies/Departments.

Integration of education for disabled in regular schools

4630. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government had recently requested the States to integrate education for physically-challenged students into regular schools;

(b) if so, the names of States that have followed the Centre's request;

(c) whether Government have set up any monitoring mechanism in this direction;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) what are the other parts of the National Policy of Education, apart from integration of the disabled, which Government intend to implement?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) (a) to (f) Yes Sir. We have received positive responses from many States Governments including Delhi, Bihar, Maharashtra, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, West Bengal, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Kerala. State Governments are being requested to monitor the implementation of the relevant provisions of Persons with Disabilities (PWD) Act, 1995 in order to ensure increasing enrolment of disabled children and send us periodical returns. Vocational Education Division in the Department of Secondary & Higher Education has been designated as the nodal office for monitoring the progress in integration of disabled children as also the implementation of the PWD Act, 1995. Apart from the policy of integration of disabled children in the normal school setting, the National Policy of Education lays special emphasis on the removal of disparities and to equalise educational opportunity by attending to the specific needs of education of Women, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other educationally backward sections & areas and Minorities.